

**CITY OF ROCHESTER
COMMITTEE ON URBAN DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT
2122 CAMPUS DR SE
ROCHESTER, MN 55904**

The Committee on Urban Design and Environment (CUDE) met at 11:30AM on Thursday, June 19, 2008 in Room 320 City Hall, Rochester, MN.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Judisch - Chair; Dick Abraham, Mark Engel, Sandi Goslee, John Klopp, Marcia Marcoux, Kathryn Moe, Roger Nelson, Zach Thaler

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gail Eadie, Mark Jasmin, Dave Petersen, Terry Spaeth, Pauline Walle

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy Blenker, Chris Flood, Mitzi Baker

The meeting began at 11:35 without a quorum.

NEW BUSINESS

Second Street Project – Amy Blenker, Chris Flood

The Second Street Project is supported by the City of Rochester and the Rochester Area Foundation; it came out of the Imagine Kutzky planning project. The project area includes 2nd Street SW from TH 52 east to 6th Avenue SW. The project is headed by a steering committee composed of technical and community members.

The group initially held an open house to find out concerns about the Second Street SW corridor. This led to the formulation of goal, including:

- Make corridor pedestrian friendly
- Improve bus system service and support densities that support transit
- Safely manage vehicles through the corridor
- Promote design excellence
- Increase commercial points of interest
- Increase housing densities along Second Street SW
- Seek opportunities to consolidate parking

Discussion followed regarding plans for streetscape, design standards, and energy efficiency. Mr. Klopp asked if the Rochester Area Foundation is considering the Second Street corridor west of TH 52; Ms. Blenker responded that they are aware of the business group that has been meeting about this, but the character of the area is very different from the east side of the highway.

The group hopes to have a final recommendation by late fall/early winter and they will be meeting with City Staff and consultants in the next few weeks to discuss implementation strategies.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A quorum was reached at 12:15. Kathryn Moe made a motion to approve the May minutes, seconded by John Klopp. The minutes were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS - continued

Commercial Pedestrian (BP) Zoning District – Mitzi Baker

Mitzi Baker, Senior Planner at the Rochester-Olmsted Planning Department, has been working on a variety of projects revolving around the concept of walkable communities. How can we integrate 30 minutes of activity into our daily routines and how friendly is our urban design to this activity?

One thing that has been recently accomplished is a policy on “complete streets”; that is, a policy recognizing that streets are not just for cars but also bikes, pedestrians, transits, etc. One purpose of this policy is to heighten awareness of ped/bike friendliness in the development review process. As a result, a new zoning district, the Commercial Pedestrian (BP) District, is being formulated. The BP District would pull uses toward the street and add pedestrian-friendly components such as canopies and streetscaping. Ms. Baker passed out a handout on the BP District.

Discussion ensued regarding building heights, ordinance graphics, and sidewalk requirements.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Roger Nelson stated that he has set up regular meetings for the Urban Forestry/Natural Systems subcommittee.

Adjourn – 1:00 PM

Next meeting will be July 17th, 11:30AM.